THE CRUMB

Vol. XXII August 13, 1947. No. 1

Middlebury College and the Conference staff welcome you cordially. This bulletin, THE CRUMB, is the official newspaper of the Conference, and will be left each morning at your place in the dining-room. It will contain notices of lectures, discussions, and other activities of the Conference.

REGISTRATION

All members of the Conference are asked to register as soon as possible, during the hours named below.

(1) Immediately after going to your room and disposing of your baggage, register with the Director of the Conference, Mr. Morrison, in his office, either from 11:00 to 12:00 in the morning or from 2:30 to 5:30 in the afternoon. If you are a Contributor, bring your manuscripts with you at this time.

(2) Complete payment of fees with Miss Hopkins and Mr. Hope, the business representatives of Middlebury College, between the hours of 3:00 and 5:30. Even if your fees are paid in full, kindly see Miss Hopkins at this time so that the Conference records may be complete. A representative of the Veterans' Administration will be available for consultation.

OPENING MEETING

At 8:00 o'clock this evening the opening meeting of the Conference will be held in the Little Theatre. The Director will outline the program and offer suggestions for making the best possible use of it. After this meeting all Conference members are invited to meet informally in the Club Room in the Barn.

MEAL HOURS

Breakfast.....8:00 to 8:30
Lunch.....1:00 to 1:20
Dinner.....6:15 to 6:30

Late breakfast and afternoon and evening snacks may be obtained for a small charge at the Conference Club Room in the Barn.

THE CRUMB

Vol. XXII August 14, 1947. No. 2

LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

9:00 Miss Mirrielees: Applications of Experience

10:15 Mr. Pratt: Choose Your Weapons

11:30 Mr. DeVoto: The Illusion of Fiction

2:30 Mr. Morrison: Poetry: Qualifications for Writing It and What It Consists of When Written

EVENING LECTURE

8:00 Mr. Sloane: The Book Publishing Crisis

BOOKSTORE HOURS

The Conference Bookstore, located next to the Director's office, carries a stock of many of the books of staff members and others, and a limited stationery supply. The Bookstore will be open for a half-hour after each meal.

LIBRARY

The Library hours are 9:15 to 9:45 a.m. and 9:00 to 9:30 p.m.

SICK CALL

The Bread Loaf nurse has her consultation room in Maple #2 and will keep office hours there for a half-hour after each meal. She will be on call at other times.

NO PARKING

Members of the Conference and staff are urged to use the parking lots in front of the Barn and beyond Maple. Parking in the roadway or on lawns is strictly forbidden.

SAXTON FELLOWSHIPS

A notice regarding literary fellowships offered under the Eugene F. Saxton Trust is posted on the bulletin board near the Director's office. Additional copies of the notice are available in the Director's office.

FELLOWS

Old Dean Pratt requests Conference Fellows to confer with him for a brief disciplinary moment at 3:35 this afternoon in his outer office in Treman Cottage.

THE CRUMB

Vol. XXII August 15, 1947. No.3

LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

9:00 Miss Mirrielees: Substance and Form

10:15 Mr. Howard: Problems of Non-fiction Research

11:30 Mr. DeVoto: The Movement of Fiction

2:30 Mr. Ciardi: The Diction of Modern Poetry

EVENING LECTURE

8:00 Mr. DeVoto: The Professional Writer

HORSES

A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board near the Director's office for those wishing to hire saddle horses during the session. Two horses are available; the hourly rate is $1.50, or, with instructor, $2.00.

LOST

A dark brown tarpaulin, six by eight feet, used for a car cover, has been lost. Will finder return either to the Director's office or to James Hubbard?

NEWSPAPERS

The N. Y. Herald Tribune will be available daily at the Bookstore. Sunday papers must be ordered in advance at the front desk.

THE CRUMB

Vol. XXII August 16, 1947. No.4

LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

9:00 Miss Mirrielees: Time and Point of Observation

10:15 Mr. Pratt: Assembling the Building Blocks

11:30 Mr. DeVoto: All the Rest of Fiction

2:30 Mr. Morrison: Think Things, Not Words: or Meaning in Poetry

EVENING LECTURE

8:00 Mr. Frost will be the speaker this evening.

TAXI SERVICE

The Bread Loaf taxi is available for trips not only to Middlebury but to other Vermont points. Arrangements may be made at the front desk.

CASH CHECKS

Because of the time requirements made by local banks, members who expect to cash checks here should present them at the front desk today.

ART AND NATURE

On display beside the front desk are numerous photographic landscapes of local scenes and illustrated match folders. These are the work of Assistant Postmaster Dick Haseltine, who can be persuaded to take orders. The unique match folders are already collectors' items.

INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS

Several members of the Conference are sponsoring for Sunday evening a number of social group meetings which they hope will combine good fellowship with informal discussion of literary topics of common interest. Those wishing to attend one of these meetings may indicate their interest on the sign-up sheets posted on the bulletin board near the Director's office. The meetings are planned for the Little Theatre at 8:00 p.m.

THE CRUMB

Vol. XXII August 17, 1947. No. 5

THE CONFERENCE FELLOWS, 1947

The Conference each year offers a limited number of fellowships to writers recommended to us by publishers, editors, agents, or other sponsors. We wish to make grateful acknowledgement to three sources for the presence of our Fellows at Bread Loaf this year. We have received fellowship funds from people who have been at the Conference before and have wished to make it possible for others to come. We have received unrestricted funds from publishers in support of fellowships. We owe the presence of two of our Fellows to the result of a contest sponsored by the Navy League for writing in any form by Navy personnel on active duty up to June 1.

We welcome as Fellows during the present year the following Conference members:

Carroll E. Cain, Chief Machinist's Mate, U.S.N., joined the Navy in 1935 and won his present rating in 1943. His war record included seven Atlantic convoys in a destroyer escort and Pacific service in a cruiser and airplane carrier. During the night watches Chief Cain outlined a novel and completed a short story which won one of the two prizes offered in the Navy Literary Contest. His home is in Oakland, California; his principal non-literary enthusiasms are steam turbines and his young daughter, Marijene.

David Davidson, of New York City, is a graduate of C.C.N.Y. and of the Columbia School of Journalism. In his varied background are ten years as a newspaperman, years of radio writing in both the soap-opera circuits and government service, and experience in Bavaria as civilian specialist in control of the press. His short stories have appeared in Collier's, Esquire and Argosy. His novel, The Steeper Cliff, was published by Random House. It has been selected by the Fiction Book Club and Omnibook, and is an August alternate of the Book of the Month Club. His wife, Hilde Abel, is a novelist whose second book, The Lake, was published by Dodd, Mead and Co. in March.

Charles M. Guthrie is make-up editor of the Minneapolis Tribune. He made his start in journalism after graduation from the University of Montana, and has worked with the Associated Press and with newspapers in Montana, Kentucky and Minnesota. He is married and has two children. Apart from his work in journalism he has more recently begun work in the short story, the promise of which has led to his Bread Loaf Fellowship.

Henry Hornsby, of Lexington, Kentucky, has been with the Lexington Leader since 1940. Having served as country correspondent, general and political reporter, and in various editorial positions, he is well provided with materials for the novel of Kentucky life which his Bread Loaf Fellowship is helping him to complete. He is married, with a sixteen year-old daughter. During 1946-47 he held a Nieman Fellowship in Journalism at Harvard.

Arnold S. Lott, Lieut. (jg) U.S.N., has his home, with his wife and two children, in San Diego, California. He joined the Navy in 1931, rose to a rating as Chief Yeoman, and received his commission in 1943. He has had writing and painting as hobbies for several years. He won the last Bainbridge Art Show with a group of water colors called "Pacific Portfolio," has contributed to ship and naval station publications, and won one of the two Navy Contest prizes with a book-length free-style poem.

Frederic Morton, of New York City, was born in Vienna and came to this country in 1940. Having graduated last year from C.C.N.Y., he plans further study at the New School for Social Research. His first novel, submitted to the Dodd Mead Intercollegiate Novel Contest, failed to win a prize but gained favorable notice; his second novel, The Hound, won the 1947 Intercollegiate Contest and will be published by Dodd Mead in October.

THE CRUMB

Vol. XXII August 18, 1947. No.6

LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

9:00 Mr. DeVoto: Americana

10:15 Mr. Sloane: The Beginning of the Novel

11:30 Mrs. Everitt: Polishing the Short Story

2:30 Mr. Morrison: Some Humble Matters of Technique

EVENING PROGRAM

8:00 Mr. Claude Simpson will present a program of piano music.

MAGAZINE DISPLAY

A large collection of magazines of all kinds is now on display in the Barn Clubroom. As this has been arranged for the convenience of the whole Conference, members are asked not to remove magazines from the Clubroom.

TENNIS COURTS

Those wishing to reserve courts for definite times must sign for them in advance on the sheet posted near the courts.

EPICUREANS AND LOITERERS

The snack bar in the Barn Chamber observes the following hours: 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.; 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.; 8:00 to 10:30 p.m. Cuisinier Bart Nourse is noted for his nice touch with the mustard and the mayonnaise. The doughnuts are Grand Rapids.

UNINHIBITED

Local talent have arranged a square dance in the Barn Clubroom for tomorrow night following the lecture.

THE CRUMB

Vol. XXII August 19, 1947. No.7

LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

9:00 Miss Mirrielees: Considering the Whole Story

10:15 Mr. Pratt: The Blushful Mystery of Style

11:30 Mr. Saxton: Character and Dialogue

2:30 Mr. Ciardi: My Soul is a Light House Keeper by the Sea

EVENING LECTURE

8:00 Mr. DeVoto: Isis and Nephtys

BOOK EXHIBITION

There will be an exhibition of books in the Blue Parlor this afternoon from four to five o'clock. In addition to many books by various members of the staff, several books by present and former members and friends of the Conference will be included, as well as some selected items of interest published by the Middlebury College Press. The bookstore manager suggests that it would be a convenience to the authors concerned if books which buyers want autographed be left with him in the Bookstore for a few days. He can then arrange with the writers to sign these books at their convenience.

TERPSICHORE

This evening following the lecture a square dance will be held in the Barn Chamber.

THE CRUMB

Vol.XXII August 20, 1947. No.8

LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

9:30 Mr. Pratt: What Shall We Write About?
(Members attending this discussion are asked to present article topics for consideration. Preferably these should be in writing and handed in at the beginning of the meeting.)

11:00 Mrs. Everitt: More about the Story

2:30 Mr. Morrison: First Clinic on Poetry

4:30 Mr. Ciardi will read from his poems in the Barn Chamber.

EVENING LECTURE

8:00 Mr. Walter Prichard Eaton will be the speaker this evening.

OPERATION EXODUS

The management at the front desk is anxious to arrange adequately for taxi transportation to Middlebury for members leaving Bread Loaf on August 26th, 27th, and 28th. Departure slips will be distributed in the dining-room at luncheon tomorrow, and members will be asked to state the date and hour of their departure by train or bus, and the amount of their baggage. Those leaving by car should also fill in these slips so that the management can be sure that all have been provided for.

SIGNATURES

The Bookstore manager suggests again that books to be autographed be left with him for a few days. He will arrange with the writers to autograph these books at their convenience.

FOUND

A navy-blue silk vanity kit was found on the grounds. The owner may call for this at the front desk.

THE CRUMB

Vol.XXII August 21, 1947. No.9

LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

9:30 Messrs. DeVoto, Saxton, Sloane: Novel Clinic

11:00 Mr. Howard: The Substance of the Article

2:30 Mr. Ciardi: Clinic on Poetry

4:30 Mr. Morrison will give an informal reading in the Barn Chamber. His selections will be from the modernization of Chaucer on which he is at work.

EVENING LECTURE

8:00 Mr. Howard: Non-fiction Frontiers

POSTPRANDIAL

Coffee will be served in the Blue Parlor this evening after dinner.

BOOKSTORE NOTES

Copies of Miss Mirrielees' book are again available. Postcards with several views of the Bread Loaf campus are on display. Books to be autographed should be left at the Bookstore no later than 7:30 this evening.

TAXI

The Bread Loaf taxi is available at twenty cents a mile for drives around the mountains and countryside. This expense is distributed among the passengers. Lake Dunmore and Texas Falls are among the nearer points of interest.

LOST

Will the finder of a copy of Untermeyer's Modern British and American Poets kindly return it either to the Director's office or to Mr. Arthur Kay.

FOUND

Various small articles have been found and collected at the front desk. A gold pin, emblem of the National Honor Society, may be claimed at the Director's office.

THE CRUMB

Vol.XXII August 22, 1947. No.10

LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

9:30 Miss Mirrielees: Clinic on the Short Story

11:00 Mr. Collins: The Business Side of Writing
(A discussion of the relationship of the author, publisher and agent, including contracts and publication rights.)

2:30 Mr. Ciardi: Clinic on Poetry

EVENING LECTURE

8:00 Mr. Pratt: How Not to Write History

BALL GAME TOMORROW

The annual Conference softball game will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2:30 at Frost Farm Field. All members are invited to play or watch. Will those planning to attend kindly sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board near the Director's office? Walkers should allow 30 to 45 minutes for the trip to the Frost farm; a truck for non-walkers will leave the front porch at 2:00. Please do not omit signing up on the posted sheets.

READING

At the request of many members, Miss Eleanor Turnbull will give a reading, this evening following the lecture, from her anthology of translations from modern Spanish poetry. The reading will be given in the Blue Parlor at 9 p.m., or shortly thereafter.

BOOKSTORE

Members who have ordered Miss Mirrielees' book are advised that additional copies are now in stock.

HITCH-HIKERS

Members driving to Newark, N. J., or to Holyoke, Mass., may make contact with pleasant passengers through the Director's office.

THE CRUMB

Vol.XXII August 23, 1947. No.11

LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

9:30 Messrs. DeVoto, Saxton, Sloane: Clinic on the Novel

11:00 Mr. Pratt: Interview and Press Conference

EVENING MEETING

8:00 Mr. Karl Shapiro will read from his poems.

BALL GAME

One and all are urged to come to the Frost farm for the softball game at 2:30 this afternoon, whether to play or jeer. A truck for the non-walkers will leave the front porch at 2:00; others should allow about a half-hour for the walk. Please indicate that you are coming on the sign-up sheet posted near the Director's office, so that an estimate may be made of the refreshments needed. Everyone is eligible to play, from scullion to poet and from bell-hop to commodore. Let youth forget its modesty, age its decrepitude, the fair sex its fragility and genius its temperament.

FOUND

Will the owner of a loose-leaf notebook in a leather zipper cover please call for it at the front desk?

LOST

Pipe.

TAXI TOMORROW?

Members wishing the services of the Bread Loaf taxi for going to church tomorrow should make early reservations at the front desk.

THE CRUMB

VOL. XXII August 24, 1947 No. 12

HILL TRAILS

Hikers, walkers and mere strollers who wish to learn of points of interest at different distances from the campus can get information at the front desk.

SWIMMING

Those who have not investigated the local swimming hole may reach it by the path across the hayfield in front of the main building. Texas Falls, to the east over the mountain, and the Sand Hill Pool, to the west, must be reached by car. Warm water addicts must go to Lake Dunmore.

MAPLE SYRUP

Six gallons of locally-produced maple syrup are available in the Bookstore at $6.00 the gallon.

COMPOSERS' CONFERENCE

The Writers' Conference will be visited tomorrow evening by many of the members and staff of the Middlebury College Composers' Conference, which is now in session. At eight o'clock tomorrow evening in the Little Theatre our visitors will render a concert of original compositions for the stringed quartet, trio and duet. The concert will be conducted by Mr. Alan Carter, Director of the Composers' Conference and founder and conductor of the Vermont Symphony Orchestra.

DO NOT FAIL to look at the transportation schedule posted outside the dining room door. YOUR NAME will appear there, also the time of your departure. If a correction is necessary, make it at the front desk, but do not fail TO LOOK.

THE CRUMB

Vol.XXII August 25, 1947. No.13

LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

9:30 Mrs. Everitt: Short Story Clinic

11:00 Mr. DeVoto: Non-fiction Clinic

2:30 Mr. Ciardi: Clinic on Poetry

EVENING MEETING

8:00 There will be a concert of music conducted by Mr. Alan Carter, Director of the Middlebury College Composers' Conference. Included will be compositions for string quartets and trios, and sonatas for cello and piano and for violin and piano. Programs of this concert will be distributed at the evening meal.

BAGGAGE, ETC.

Members are reminded that all baggage to be checked on tickets or sent express must be ready by 8:30 on Wednesday morning. Tickets must be deposited in the front office by Tuesday. Tickets for the 1:25 train Wednesday will be held at the station by our man pending the arrival of the Bread Loaf bus bringing members to that train.

TRAINWARD BUS

As a bus has had to be chartered for the large number of members going to Middlebury on Wednesday, it is hoped that they will abide by the departure plans stated earlier on their departure slips. No detours.

CHRISTMAS?

The Bookstore manager wishes to remind his patrons of the plight of the publishers and of the joys of giving. Newly in stock: Arthur Ageton's Mary Jo and Little Liu; Cid Ricketts Sumner's Quality. A new shipment received of The Steeper Cliff and Story Writing. Other titles are listed on the bulletin board.

LOCAL PRODUCT

At this writing a gallon or two of maple syrup are still available in the Bookstore at $6:00 the gallon.

THE CRUMB

Vol.XXII August 26, 1947. No.14

LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

9:30 Messrs. DeVoto, Saxton, Sloane: Novel Clinic

11:00 Mr. Pratt, Mrs. Everitt, Miss Mirrielees: Detective Story, Pulp, and Good Fiction

2:30 Mr. Frost will speak at the poetry meeting.

BANQUET

6:30 The dining-room will open at 6:30 this evening for the Conference Banquet. The after-dinner speaking will be brief.

ROUND TABLE

Following the Banquet this evening, after a twenty minute intermission, members of the fellowship group and others will hold a round table in the Little Theatre. Various matters of literary controversy will be argued, and all members are invited to join in the fray from the floor. Bring your own shin-guards.

LIBRARY AND BOOKSTORE

All books must be returned to the Library before 9:30 this evening, at which time the Library will close for the season. Its hours today are: 9:15 - 9:45 a.m.; 2:30 - 3:00 p.m.; 9:00 - 9:30 p.m.

The Bookstore will close for the summer at 7:45 this evening. Autographed books should be claimed during the day.

GROUP PICTURES

Group pictures of staff and fellows are posted near the Director's office. Unmounted copies of these, at $1 each, may be ordered at the Bookstore or the Director's office.

ADDRESS LISTS

Those who did not get their Conference address lists at Sunday lunch may call for copies at the Director's office. Some corrected items in the list are:

Fay-Bond S. Hinrichs, 615½ Hudson St., New York 14.
Margaret L. Law, 530 East 86th St., New York 28.
Perry N. Strassburger, 68 Hawthorne Place, Montclair

PLEASE CHECK OUT AT DESK

Will departing members who are leaving in their own cars please sign out at the front desk?

THE CRUMB

Vol.XXII August 27, 1947. No.15

LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

9:30 Members of the staff will join in a discussion and review of topics previously treated in Conference meetings. Mr. Morrison will preside. Members whose taxis will leave during the morning should feel free to drop in at the meeting during the time at their disposal.

LUNCH AT HIGH NOON

Note well that today and tomorrow lunch will be at 12 o'clock sharp.

A MATTER OF PUBLIC CONCERN

Members whose hours of departure have changed are asked to inform the front desk. The taxi driver is deeply depressed over everyone's unpredictibility.

LOST BOOK

Will the finder of a copy of Dunham's Man against Myth kindly return to Anne Cantor or the front desk?

LIBRARY BOOKS

Library books still out must be returned to the Bookstore before 9:30 this morning.

B R E A D L O A F G U I D E B O O K 1 9 4 7

It is possible that under the extreme pressure of Conference work, some members may have neglected the proper appreciative scrutiny of notable aspects of the Vermont landscape. According to the admittedly old-fashioned but, we hope, not entirely untenable criteria of your Head Guide (and we must, after all, always be bounded, each of us, by such personal limitations) these peaks and acclivities are not the least of the formative influences which give shape to that complex of personality and impersonality which is Bread Loaf.

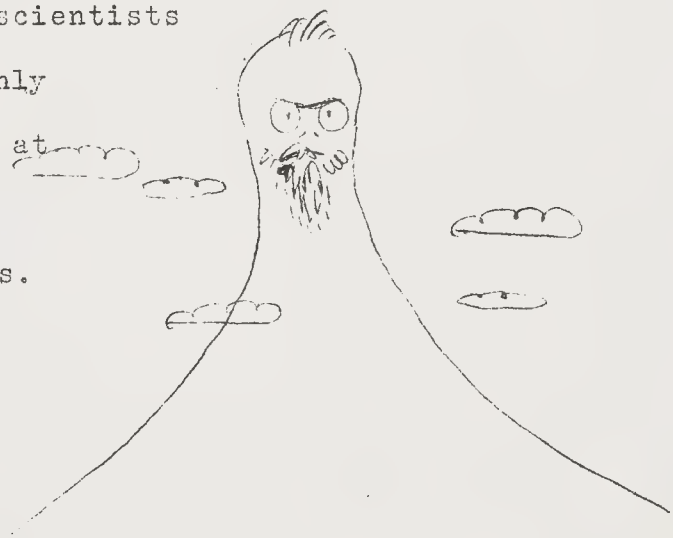
In order that all shall partake of this rewarding experience in the few all-too-brief hours before the trains leave (Note: do not fail to get those bags ready by 8:30 a.m. tomorrow) the management presents this little guide to Bread Loaf. Members, although we have no rules here, or perhaps only one if I remember correctly, will find their appreciation greatly enhanced by following the prescribed course of sight-seeing.

Head Guide

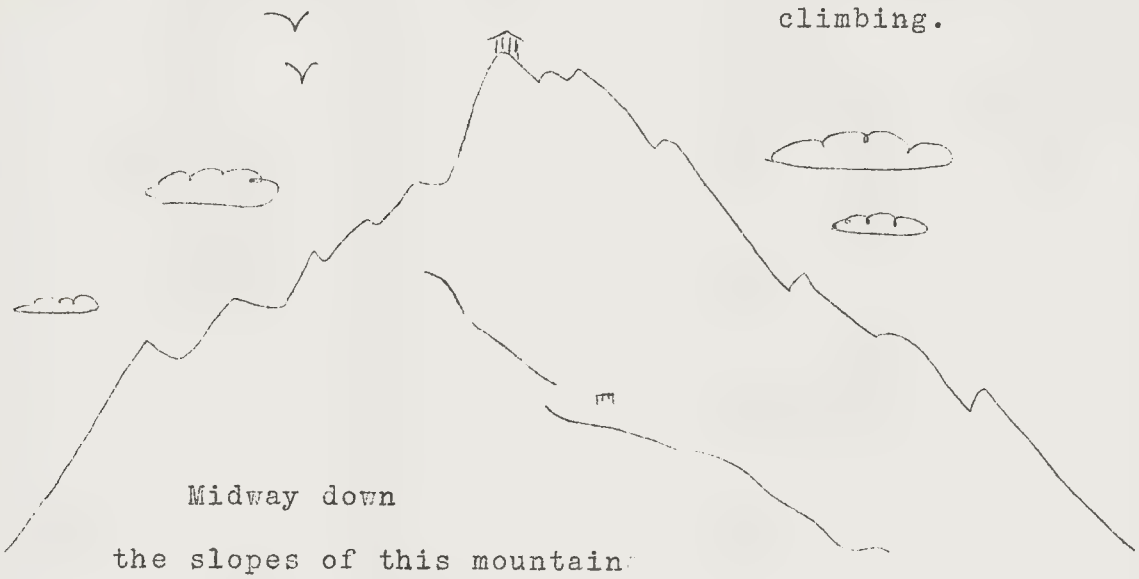
INGA DID IT

To our left we have MOUNT DEVOTO, sometimes slurred by the local patois into Mon'deVocal, only active volcano in Vermont. In a recent eruption 43,022 children perished, and several libraries were swallowed up in the crevasses.

Next, distinguished by the revolving air beacon, is MOUNT DEAN PRATT, characterized by unusual and complex formations which scientists have been able to study only from the air. Tricky bogs at its foot have trapped many earthbound historians. The middle slopes are infested with snails.

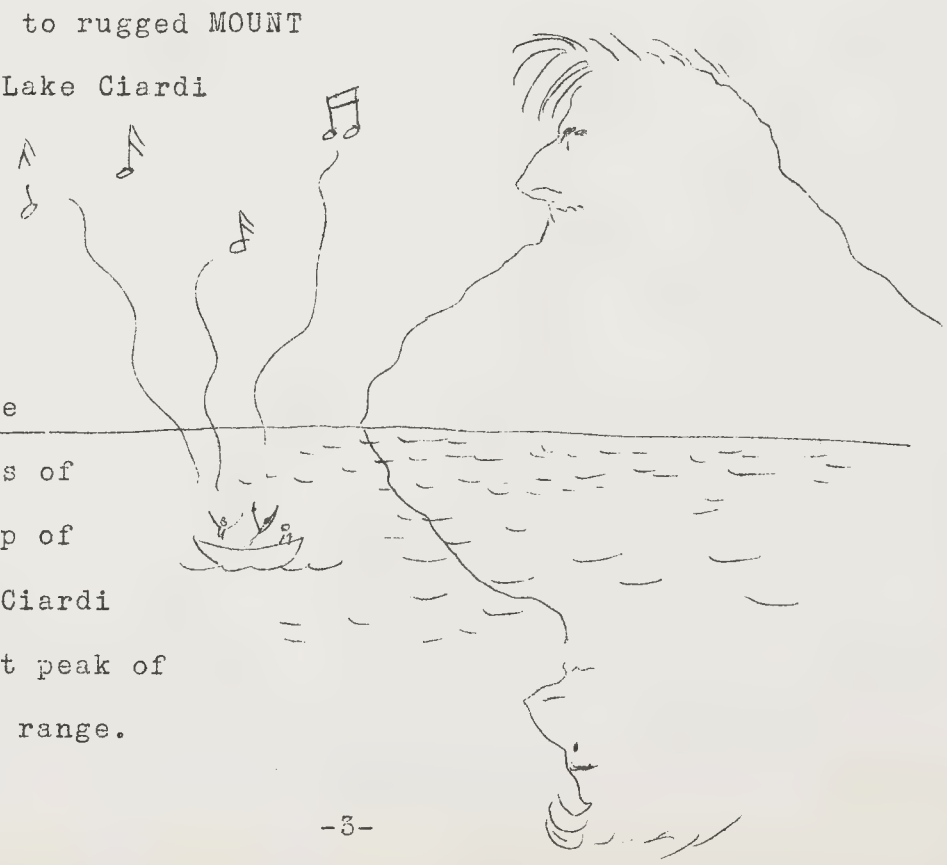


The landscape becomes more gently inviting as we approach MOUNT MIRRIELEES, upon which rests the temple of Pallas Athene. Toward this a stream of pilgrims is constantly climbing.



Midway down the slopes of this mountain flow the streams of Glen Helen, whose clinical properties invigorate the lagging climber.

Now we come to rugged MOUNT CIARDI, with Lake Ciardi within very easy reach. This lake is famous for the twilight songs of its Fellowship of boatmen. Mt. Ciardi is the highest peak of the Insomniac range.



Overlooking the lake is the Collins House, recently supplied with a new portico. This establishment is American plan and rates are currently at a 15% discount, but interested patrons are warned that once in, it is difficult to get out.

Visitors are asked not to be disturbed by the frequent appearances of Welsh Indians who have recently taken up residence on Mount DeVoto. The management has arranged a treaty with CHIEF HOWARD, who guarentees to return the tribesmen to their original grazing lands in Montana. Meanwhile our more patient and intrepid members will be interested in the study of this carnivorous and taciturn aboriginal character.

Visitors who have progressed through the Greene Woods as far as the famous SLOANE CEMETERY will be conducted through it by one of the Saxtons, who also contract for novel family plots, usable when required, at $3.50 per head. Kind-hearted visitors to this institution will be glad to make contributions toward the support of the Home for Impoverished Publishers, an impecunious race whose wives are reported to exist largely on celery.

Climbers over the further range see in the distance the frost-capped MOUNT OLYMPUS.

Visitors returning from the guided tour are given the privilege of witnessing the Bread Loaf Circus Parade, arranged by the management every evening at vespers, which are conducted at 6:29:50 o'clock and concluded by the sounding of a musical note by Inga. The parade brings us the Eaton-Shapiro show, numerous fan-dancing poets, the Simpson musical turn, a large aggregation of captive lions, and a Wolfe in chains.

PRATT SCRIPSIT

THE SECOND ANNUAL
MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE COMPOSERS' CONFERENCE
AND
CHAMBER MUSIC CENTER

Concert of Works by the Staff and Everett Holm

* * * *

"1865" Quartet for Strings.....Everett Holm
Allegro
Lento
Allegro

Maurice Wilk, 1st Violin — Alan Carter, Viola
Virginia deBlasiis, 2nd Violin — George Finckel, 'Cello

Serenade for Oboe, Violin, Viola and Violoncello-Richard Donovan

William Garrigus
Virginia deBlasiis
Jean Scheidenhelm
George Finckel

* * * *

Elegy for Violoncello and Piano.....Otto Luening

George Finckel
Otto Luening

Sonata for Violin and Piano (1947)...Halsey Stevens

Allegro
Molto adagio
Allegretto ben accentato
Allegro

Maurice Wilk and Halsey Stevens

* * * *

Bread Loaf Little Theatre — Monday, August 25, at 8:00